

SCOTTISH CENTRE FOR CHINESE STUDIES PRESENTS

A MEETING ON THE NEW BOOK:

Our History Is Still Being Written:

The Story of Three Chinese-Cuban Generals in the Cuban Revolution



Chinese-Cubans 1960 rally in support of nationalizing U.S. industries

**Friday 19th
October 2007**

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6.30pm Reception:

Meet the speakers; Displays,
Stalls and Refreshments

7pm Meeting

Showing from Loni Ding's film :

Ancestors in the Americas:

Coolies, Settlers and Sailors

- a 12 minute excerpt about the Chinese indentured labourers who came to Cuba's sugar plantations.

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Speakers:

Caroline Hoy

Lecturer and writer on Chinese migration.

Jonathan Silberman

Pathfinder Books, London. Participant in book launches in Cuba for *Our History is Still Being Written*

Faculty Room South
David Hume Tower
University of Edinburgh
George Square
Edinburgh

Armando Choy, Gustavo Chui and Moisés Sío Wong are three Chinese-Cubans who as young rebels participated in the 1956–58 Cuban revolution that brought down the Batista dictatorship. *Our History is Still Being Written*, published by Pathfinder Press, tells their story. All three became generals in Cuba's army, helped lead 375,000 Cuban volunteers in the sixteen year long internationalist mission in Angola whose highlight was the 1988 defeat of the invading South African apartheid army. They play leadership roles in Cuba today.

The significance of Chinese immigration into Cuba, starting in the 19th Century, is discussed in the book. Cuba's Spanish rulers transported over 150,000 Chinese peasants, in brutal conditions, to work as indentured labourers - virtual slaves - in the sugar industry. Thousands of them fought to free Cuba of Spanish colonial rule and later in the 1956-58 revolution. The three generals explain that it was through Cuba's socialist revolution that "discrimination—against blacks, against Chinese, against women, against the poor—was ended."

Meeting Sponsors: *Scottish Centre for Chinese Studies; Confucius Institute for Scotland; Pathfinder Books, Edinburgh; a Black History Month event.*

Further details: Natascha Gentz, Confucius Institute for Scotland in the University of Edinburgh, Natascha.Gentz@ed.ac.uk; or Peter Clifford, Pathfinder Books, 07931 571503, Pathfinder.ed@btinternet.com